

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
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AMEMBASSY KABUL
UDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3232
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 5663

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, FR, PK, US
SUBJ: ARTICLES/EDITORIALS ON REPROCESSING ISSUE

1. WIDELY-READ URDU DAILY JANG CARRIED LONDON DATED
ARTICLE ON REPROCESSING PLANT ON 1 JUNE WHICH WAS NOT
CARRIED IN UPCOUNTRY EDITIONS: TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE LONDON MAY 31 (JANG REPRESENTATIVE) -- IT SEEMS THAT
THE ISSUE OF THE ACQUISITION OF THE ATOMIC REPROCESSING
PLANT FOR PAKISTAN HAS BEEN LAID ASIDE BECAUSE THE FRENCH
GOVERNMENT IS INSISTING ON EFFECTING SOME AMEND-
MENTS IN THE
AGREEMENT SIGNED IN MARCH 1976. IT IS SEEKING A NEW AGREEMENT
WITH PAKISTAN UNDER THE PRESSURE OF THE GROUP SUPPLYING
ATOMIC EQUIPMENT AND IN PARTICULAR OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION,
TO REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF PAKISTAN MAKING THE ATOMIC
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BOMB FROM THE MATERIAL TO BE OBTAINED
FROM THE REPROCESSING
PLANT. IT IS LEARNT FROM RELIABLE SOURCES THAT THE
GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE HAS SUGGESTED CHANGES IN THE DESIGN
OF THE PROPOSED REPROCESSING PLANT. BUT PAKISTAN DOES NOT
APPEAR TO BE ACCEPTING THE FRENCH SUGGESTION. DIPLOMATIC
SOURCES HAVE EXPRESSED SURPRISE OVER THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S

INSISTENCE WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY RESISTED SUCCESSFULLY THE AMERICAN PRESSURE TO CANCEL THE AGREEMENT WITH PAKISTAN TO THE EXTENT THAT FRANCE HAD PERSUADED THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF SUPPLIERS OF ATOMIC EQUIPMENT TO AGREE THAT THE FRANCE-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT WOULD NOT BE EFFECTED BY THE NEW GUIDELINES. THE SIGNIFICANT FACT IS THAT RECENTLY JAPAN HAS SIGNED A 50 MILLION-POUND AGREEMENT WITH BRITAIN TO MAKE ITS FUEL REUSABLE AT THE WINDSCALE REACTOR IN THE U.K. IN THIS WAY BOTH BRITAIN AND JAPAN HAVE VIOLATED THE NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION. INSTEAD OF BANNING THE EXPORT OF URANIUM TO JAPAN, THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WILL PROBABLY HOLD TALKS REGARDING SAFEGUARDS AT WINDSCALE. THIS REFLECTS A CHANGE IN CARTER'S

ATOMIC STRATEGY. HE HAS ADOPTED A DIFFERENT ATTITUDE WITH REGARDS TO THE ACQUISITION OF A REPROCESSING PLANT FOR PAKISTAN. END QUOTE.

2. ALSO OF INTEREST IS EDITORIAL
IN URDU WEEKLY AKHBARE
JAHAN 3 JUNE, GIST OF WHICH FOLLOWS:

HEADLINED ATOMIC REPROCESSING PLANT: FRANCE ON THE WAY OF GOING BACK ON ITS WORDS, EDITORIAL REFERS TO FRENCH INSISTENCE ON AMENDING ITS AGREEMENT WITH PAKISTAN FOR THE SUPPLY OF A REPROCESSING PLANT, AND SAYS QUOTE: IT SHOWS UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT FRANCE HAS BOWED DOWN BEFORE THE AMERICAN PRESSURE. IT IS SURPRISING THAT THIS INSISTENCE HAS COME AFTER DOZENS OF STATEMENTS BY FRENCH RULERS TO HONOR THE AGREEMENT. A SIMILAR AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN WEST GERMANY AND BRAZIL, BUT SO FAR NO WEST GERMAN INSISTENCE TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT HAS COME TO LIGHT. THIS MEANS THAT EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO DEPRIVE ONLY PAKISTAN FROM A PARTICULAR TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITY. IT WILL NOT BE SURPRISING IF JEWISH EFFORTS TO DEPRIVE ALL MUSLIM COUNTRIES OF THIS SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY PROVE TO BE THE CAUSE OF THIS FRENCH INSISTENCE. IF FRANCE GOES BACK ON ITS PLEDGE, PAKISTAN BEING A SMALL COUNTRY WILL BE FORCED TO REMAIN SILENT, BUT THIS ACTION WILL HARM FRENCH PRESTIGE AND FRANCE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT GIVE ANY IMPORTANCE TO WRITTEN AGREEMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, U.S. HAS REFUSED TO SUPPLY A-7 FIGHTER-BOMBERS TO PAKISTAN UNDER THE AGREEMENT UNDER ITS STRANGE LOGIC THAT PAKISTAN WAS SITUATED IN AN AREA OF TENSION, THOUGH IT IS CONTINUING TO SUPPLY WAR MATERIALS TO MANY AREAS OF TENSION. BY INSISTING ON AMENDING THE AGREEMENT, FRANCE HAS CONFRONTED PAKISTAN WITH AN UNFORTUNATE SITUATION. ONE ALTERNATIVE FOR PAKISTAN IS TO APPROACH FRIENDLY ARAB COUNTRIES

FOR CONVINCING FRANCE OF THE NEED TO HONOR ITS AGREEMENT.
THE OTHER ALTERNATIVE IS TO TAKE THE CASE TO THE WORLD
COURT, IN WHICH CASE PAKISTAN WILL NOT GET THE PLANT BUT THE
FRENCH VIOLATION OF THE AGREEMENT WILL GET SOME PUBLICITY.
END QUOTE.
HUMMEL

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